

Application No. 10/779,731
Reply to Office Action
July 25, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-45. (Canceled)

46. (Currently amended) A method for imaging of lymphatic vasculature in tissue, comprising the step of contacting the tissue with an antibody or a F(ab')₂, F(ab'), F(ab) fragment or chimeric antibody thereof which interferes with binding of VEGF-D to a VEGF receptor-3, and detecting the occurrence of binding of said antibody.

47. (Currently amended) The [[A]] method according to Claim 46, wherein said antibody is a monoclonal antibody selected from the group consisting of 2F8 (ATCC No. PTA-3653), 4A5 (ATCC No. HB-12698), 4E10 (ATCC No. PTA-3652), and 5F12 (ATCC No. PTA-3651), or a F(ab')₂, F(ab'), F(ab) fragment or chimeric antibody thereof.

48. (Currently amended) The [[A]] method according to Claim 46, wherein the antibody is labeled covalently or noncovalently with a detectable label.

49. (Currently amended) The [[A]] method according to Claim [[49]] 48, wherein the detectable label is selected from the group consisting of supermagnetic agent, a paramagnetic agent, an electron dense agent, an ecogenic agent, and a radioactive agent.

50. (Currently amended) The [[A]] method according to Claim 49, wherein the detectable label is selected from the group consisting of ¹²⁵I, ³²P, an enzymatic label, and a fluorimetric labels.

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51. (Currently amended) The [[A]] method according to Claim 50, wherein the enzymetic label is horseradish peroxidase.

52. (Currently amended) The [[A]] method according to Claim 50, wherein the fluorimetric label is fluorescein-5-isothiocyanate (FITC).

53-64. (Canceled)